

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

This Preliminary Amendment is hereby submitted to amend the English language translation of International Application No. PCT/EP03/03803, entering US National Stage under 35 USC §371 as U.S. Patent Application No. 10/511,688. Amendments submitted herein are to the English language translation of the International Application as filed. Claims 1-3 and 11-27 are pending in the application following entry of this Preliminary Amendment. Claims 1-3 are herein amended, and claims 4-10 are herein canceled. New claims 11-27 are herein submitted for examination.

The following Amendments are submitted:

In the specification:

Applicant makes several “form and format” amendments to the specification in order to conform with US practice, regulation, and statute. Customary heading Background of the Invention, and sub-headings Field of the Invention and Description of the Related Art have been added. The Summary of the Invention heading has been added, and paragraph [0005] of the Summary has been rewritten to replace originally filed paragraph [0005] in accordance with amended independent claim 1. New paragraphs [0005.1], [0005.2], and [0005.3] are submitted to describe each of the independent claims submitted for examination, and to provide a brief overview of pending dependent claims. The headings Brief Description of the Drawings, and Detailed Description of Embodiments of the Invention have been added, and the Abstract of the Invention is amended. The amended specification is essentially the same in content as the originally filed international application, with form and format changes in accordance with US practice, and no new matter is introduced.

In the claims:

The claims are herein amended to conform to US practice and preference. Claims 1-3 are amended, claims 4-10 are canceled, and new claims 11-27 are submitted for examination.

Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been introduced, and respectfully requests examination of claims 1-3 and 11-27 of the present application

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as amended by this Preliminary Amendment. Claim amendments are submitted to amend the claims as originally filed in the International Application.

If Examiner has any questions concerning the present Preliminary Amendment, or the application, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at (408) 749-6900, ext. 6905. If any additional fees are due in connection with filing this amendment, the Commissioner is also authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. WACHP002). A copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
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